

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 SEC-01 /076 W

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R 091100Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7539

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3545

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: JAPANESE REACTION TO ARREST OF KIM DAE JUNG

1. ACCORDING TO FONOFF NORTHEAST ASIA DIVDIR ENDO, GOJ OFFICIALLY REGARDS ARREST OF KIM DAE JUNG AS INTERNAL ROK AFFAIR. AS LONG AS ROK-JAPANESE UNDERSTANDING OF NOV 1973 NOT VIOLATED (I.E. AS LONG AS KIM GIVEN SAME TREATMENT AS WOULD BE GIVEN TO ORDINARY ROK CITIZEN) GOJ PLANS NO ACTION.

2. UNOFFICIALLY, HOWEVER, ENDO IS WORRIED THAT KIM'S ARREST WILL CAUSE "BIG PROBLEMS" IN THE DIET, AGGRAVATE IMPROVING ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS, AND ADVERSELY AFFECT RATIFICATION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT.

3. ARREST OF KIM HAS BEEN FRONT PAGE ITEM IN ALL DAILIES. OPPOSITION PARTIES HAVE ALL MADE CRITICAL STATEMENTS, WITH EXCEPTION OF DSP WHICH DESCRIBED ARREST AS INTERNAL ROK MATTER.

4. COMMENT: FUTHER REACTION ON PART OF JAPANESE WILL DEPEND IN LARGE PART, OF COURSE, ON WHAT ACTION ROK TAKES WITH HIM, HOWEVER, FACT THAT PRIMARY ATTENTION
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OF BODY POLITIC REMAINS RIVETED ON LOCKHEED HAS DULLED

IMPACT OF ARREST, AND SHOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE THAT EFFECT
FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE. UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES, WE
DOUBT THAT ARREST WILL ATTRACT MORE THAN PASSING NOTICE IN
DIET.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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